

0137-02-CID369-23534

SWORN STATEMENT

File Number : 0134-02-CID369-23533/0137-02-CID369-23534
Location : Fort Bragg, North Carolina 28310
Date : 1 Aug 2004 *JK/Ogden*
Statement of: HIGGINBOTHAM, Jennifer N.
SSN : Grade/Status: SGT/E5
Org/Address : Alpha Company, 519th Military Intelligence (MI)
Battalion, Fort Bragg, NC 28310

I, Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, want to make the following statement under oath:

This statement is being provided in accordance with the grant of testimonial immunity, which was served to me on 31 July 2004. After consultation with CPT Sean WILSON, Trial Defense Services, Fort Bragg, NC, I understand and agree to my responsibility to fully cooperate and provide my full and truthful knowledge in support of the criminal investigation related to the death of two detainees within the Bagram Collection Point (BCP), Bagram, Afghanistan, during December 2002.

Q: When did you enter the U.S. Army?

A: On 2 March 2000, I enlisted into the Minnesota National Guard. I enlisted as a 31R, which was a signal communications field. I remained in the National Guard until I came on active duty 13 June 2001. When I came on active duty, I signed a contract to become a 97B, which is a counter intelligence agent.

Q: Describe your assignments since you entered the U.S. Army?

A: After I enlisted in the National Guard, I attended basic training between 8 June 2000 and Late August 2000 at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. I was assigned to the 134th Signal Brigade, Inver Grove Heights, MN. When I enlisted on Active Duty, I went to Fort Leonard Wood, MO awaiting completion of my security clearance. On 28 July 2001, I attended Military Intelligence Advanced Individual Training (AIT), At Fort Huachuca, AZ, until 7 December 2001. On 8 December 2001, I arrived at Fort Bragg, NC and signed into Company A, 519th MI Bn, on 21 December 2001. That is the unit I remain assigned to currently.

Q: What is your Military Occupational Specialty (MOS)?

A: I am a 97B, counter intelligence agent.

Q: What is your experience as a MI interrogator?

A: During AIT training to achieve our MOS, we spend about a week working hand in hand with the MI interrogators. That is to teach us how to work together, as we are sister MOS's and work closely together. I am not school trained as an MI interrogator. I received training during AIT in the conduct of

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counter intelligence interviews, but those are different from MI interrogations.

Q: During your military career, what deployments have you participated in?

A: Operation Enduring Freedom, 23 July 2002 through 28 January 2003. Operation Iraqi Freedom from 11 March 2003 through 23 September 2003.

Q: During your deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, 23 Jul 02 - 28 Jan 03, what unit were you assigned to?

A: I was assigned to Company A, 519th MI Bn, Fort Bragg, NC.

Q: During your deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, 11 Mar 03 - 23 Sep 03, what unit were you assigned to?

A: Company A, 519th MI Bn, Fort Bragg, NC.

Q: What dates were you deployed to Afghanistan as part of Co A, 519th MI Bn?

A: I was deployed 23 Jul 2002 through 28 January 2003.

Q: Did you attend any pre-deployment training prior to your deployment to Afghanistan?

A: Yes. The unit conducted pre-deployment training at Fort Bragg for approximately a month before we deployed.

Q: During the pre-deployment training, what was taught?

A: We trained on how to react to fire, combat drills, first aid, weapons qualifications and NBC training. Law of land Warfare, SAEDA briefings. That is all I can remember, it was a long time ago.

Q: During the pre-deployment training, were there any classes taught related to information/intelligence gathering or interrogations?

A: To be honest with you, I do not remember.

Q: What were your duties while deployed to Afghanistan?

A: I was assigned as an interrogator.

Q: Were you trained to proficiency to perform this duty?

A: No.

Q: Who assigned you to the duty as an interrogator?

A: The Chain of Command, the Company Commander was CPT Jason M. BROWN. There was a change of command while we were in Afghanistan during September 2002 and CPT HOPPER assumed command of the unit. All of us kept our same roles and responsibilities under CPT HOPPER.

Q: Why were you assigned to a duty for which you were not qualified? Did you notify anyone that you were not qualified as an MI interrogator?

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A: The Chain of Command knew there was an unbalance between MI interrogators and counter intelligence agents. In order to fulfill the mission, the unit balanced the missions and some of the counter intelligence agents were pulled over to fill vacancies as interrogators. This was done to ensure we were able to complete all the assigned missions. All of us who were 97B counter intelligence agents went to our Platoon Sergeant, SSG LORING and told him that we were not trained as interrogators, that we were counter intelligence agents. He said he would speak with the unit 1SG, 1SG BLASHFORD. We knew that SSG LORING spoke with the 1SG, because he came back to us and informed us that the decision had been made and we were going to fill the responsibility as interrogators.

Q: When the decision was made to use the 97B counter intelligence agents as interrogators, were you provided any training in how to conduct interrogations or the rules to follow while conducting interrogations?

A: We went over the Geneva Conventions, but I cannot recall what else we did, it has been too long. I don't remember going through any specific training related to interrogations.

Q: Where did you normally perform your duties?

A: Inside the Bagram Collection Point (BCP), Bagram, Afghanistan.

Q: Where was that located in Afghanistan?

A: Along Disney drive, Bagram Air Base

Q: Where was your work area located at the BCP?

A: On the second floor. When you entered the front door, you turned to your immediate right there was a stairwell that would take you to the second floor. The MI office was at the top of those stairs. We would work out of that office unless we were conducting interrogations. The interrogation rooms were also on the second floor along a hallway next to the MI office.

Q: With whom did you billet during your tour in Afghanistan?

A: CPT WOOD and SGT SALCEDO (Formerly SGT RYAN). SGT SALCEDO came during Sep 02 and stayed until Jan 03. I resided with CPT WOOD the entire tour.

Q: Which MI personnel worked together in teams? Did these teams change?

A: The teams were not developed until the November 2002 time period. Prior to that time, everyone worked together and there were not designated teams. If someone needed assistance with an interrogation, they would use one of the available soldiers. When the teams were developed, I was assigned to work on a team

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which consisted of Alex LEAHY, Damien CORSETTI, Eric MANKIN, Marshall SKAGGS, and Eric LaHAMMER. The other team was made up of Jeremy SHOEMAKE, Selena SALCEDO(RYAN), Joshua CLAUS, Glendale WALLS. Eric LaHAMMER and Marshall SKAGGS would fluctuate between the two teams. There was also a "command" team, which consisted of the Officer in Charge (OIC) CPT Carolyn WOOD, and Non Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) SSG Steven LORING and his assistant NCOIC SGT Ric HENDRIX. There were also personnel responsible for the computers, filing reports, which were written, basically the administrative function of the detainee operations and they were Matthew CHIPMAN, SGT HARRIS, SSG JUSTIN and CW2 Abe KADDER (the spelling of the last name may be incorrect).

Q: While deployed to Bagram, Afghanistan, did the MI unit ever conduct any training related to interrogations to assist those members of the unit who were not school trained MI interrogators?

A: I don't remember if we did or did not.

Q: Of the individuals you worked with, who were school trained MI interrogators?

A: CPT WOOD, SSG LORING, SPC MANKIN, SGT CLAUS, SPC LaHAMMER and SPC WALLS and SGT CHIPMAN.

Q: Which of the personnel you worked with was school trained as 97B, counter intelligence agents?

A: Myself, PFC CORSETTI, SGT SHOEMAKE, SGT SALCEDO (RYAN) and SPC SKAGGS. I cannot recall what MOS SGT HENDRIX or SGT LEAHY had.

Q: Describe and diagram the MI work area within the BCP?

A: The MI Office was on the secod floor of the BCP. The door opened in and that was the only doot to the office. There was a window along the far wall, which overlocked the main floor of the BCP where the main detainee cells were located. There was a storage room along the wall opposite the doorway were we stored sensitive items and weapons. CPT WOOD sat to the right of the main door and that is where the MI Operations had several seats. There were several computers along the wall next to the MI operations, which extended to the window area. Those computers were the ones, which the interrogators would use. One of those computers was unclassified for the Internet. There were wooden tables in the center of the room, which served as a workspace for other Governmental Agencies, CID and ourselves. There was an area for MI operations along the wall of the storage room. There were benches along the wall to the left side of the main

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entry door. We put up a doorway in the hallway outside the MI office, which lead to the balcony. Along the balcony were several interrogation rooms, which would be used to interrogate the detainees.

Q: Would the MI unit hold daily operational briefings? If so, where and who would attend the briefings?

A: Yes, we had a daily briefing at 0400z or 0430z at the MI office. All of the interrogators would attend as well as OPS personnel, OIC/NCOIC personnel, CID, Other Governmental Agencies and representatives from CJTF-180. CPT WOOD was present 99% of the time. It was required that you attend the briefing unless you had a special circumstance. Our interpreters would also be present and the schedule would be discussed as far as what detainee was being interrogated and when.

Q: What type of information would be discussed during these briefings?

A: Every interrogation that happened since the briefing on the previous morning. You would discuss the highlights of each briefing to include the information you gathered if anything. Also, they briefed news that went on in the area, which had intelligence value that we would be able to gather or benefit from. They would put out company level information related to details and assignments.

Q: During these briefings and discussions related to the results of interrogations, were interrogation techniques or methods discussed or decided?

A: Yes, they were discussed as far as during the previous interrogation what techniques were attempted or used and whether or not they were successful, but only on certain detainees they were discussed.

Q: As an NCO within Alpha Company 519th MI, what are your normal responsibilities?

A: I was not an NCO during the time of the deployment. I was a Private First Class (PFC) until Nov 02, when I was promoted to Specialist (SPC) 1 Nov 02. My normal responsibilities were to attend the daily briefing and to conduct interrogations as scheduled. Keep the facility clean.

Q: Describe the staff relationships relative to the BCP for MI operations? Please include the role of the JIIC, the J2, the PMO, the J3, and the Fusion Cell if you know. Provide names to go with those positions if possible.

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A: Based on my responsibility and duties, I had no working involvement with anyone outside of my immediate chain of command.

Q: Describe your relationship within the MI chain of command at the BCP?

A: I was a team member and my team leader was Alex LEAHY (during the Nov 02 timeframe). My chain of command included LEAHY, then to Ric HENDRIX, then Steven LORING and then CPT WOOD. If you wanted to after CPT WOOD, you could see the 1SG and the Company Commander.

Q: Was there a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Alpha Company 519th MI related to conducting the MI interrogation mission at the Bagram BCP? If so, did you read it? Was it discussed with MI Interrogators?

A: Yes, we read and signed the SOP.

Q: When did you review and sign the SOP?

A: I reviewed the SOP in Bagram. When we initially arrived for the deployment, I do not recall there being an SOP. I don't even know when, but I know sometime later during the deployment, a SOP was provided. I reviewed the SOP and signed it. I know I reviewed the SOP before December 2002, but I don't know exactly when.

Q: Who wrote the SOP you reviewed?

A: I don't remember who wrote it. It was drafted and produced by members of the unit while we were at Bagram.

Q: Who was responsible for writing and approving the SOP?

A: I don't know.

Q: Do you recall the name or date of the SOP?

A: No.

Q: Was the SOP you reviewed and signed specifically related to MI interrogation and operations or was it inclusive of the entire BCP operation?

A: Just the interrogations.

Q: Was any Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) in force at the BCP during December 2002?

A: Yes, once we read and signed it, we were told to follow it.

Q: Who told you to follow the SOP after you reviewed and signed it?

A: SSG LORING and CPT WOOD.

Q: Do you know if SSG LORING or anyone within the MI Chain of Command ever referenced a MI SOP or other SOP pertaining to the BCP and the handling of detained personnel?

A: I don't recall.

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Q: What was CPT WOOD's role within the MI unit at the BCP?

A: She was the OIC of the MI aspect of the facility.

Q: As the OIC, what were CPT WOOD's responsibilities?

A: She would oversee the NCOIC and liaison between the MI unit and the CJTF-180 staff. Some liaison with the MP's and the rest of the MI chain of command.

Q: Did CPT WOOD have knowledge of daily operations to include proposed interrogation techniques and results of interrogations of detainees at the BCP?

A: Yes. She would attend the daily briefings.

Q: What was SSG LORING's role within the MI unit at the BCP?

A: He was the NCOIC of the MI aspect of the facility.

Q: As the NCOIC, what were SSG LORING's responsibilities?

A: He was responsible for all the interrogators. He acts as our Platoon Sergeant. He was responsible for scheduling the interrogations for the day. He was also responsible for what "game plan" to use on detainees during their interrogation. He was also responsible for liaison with the MP's, as far as if we wanted something done with one particular detainee; he would liaison with the MP's to have them do things instead of us.

Q: What do you mean by "game plan"?

A: Different interrogation techniques.

Q: What type of things would the MP's do in support of the MI instruction at the BCP related to detainees?

A: Sleep deprivation, or adjusted sleep schedule is what they called it. As far as extra duties within the facility such as taking out the trash or having to separate the meals for the detainees. Almost as if the detainee was in trouble and had been given extra duty.

Q: Did SSG LORING have knowledge of daily operations to include proposed interrogation techniques and results of interrogations of detainees at the BCP?

A: Yes, we briefed him every day on what happened. He oversaw the interrogation plan for upcoming interrogations as well.

Q: What did MI see as the mission at Bagram, Afghanistan?

A: To collect viable intelligence for the CJTF-180 Commander and other intelligence of value to help save soldiers lives and protect soldiers. Valuable intelligence.

Q: What information was MI trying to obtain from detained personnel?

A: Valuable intelligence for CJTF-180 Commander and to stop future attacks.

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Q: Was the training provided by the MI school effective in supporting the mission at Bagram, Afghanistan?

A: No, because I was trained as a counter intelligence agent.

Q: Why is it different to interrogate suspected terrorists, insurgents, etc? etc?

A: My opinion was that the difference was that knowing the individual had killed an American. It makes you frustrated or angry knowing the individual had killed an American and the detainee is sitting right in front of you.

Q: What were the rules of engagement related to physical contact with the detainees during interrogations?

A: What I remember is that you were not to physically harm a detainee unless the detainee was trying to physically harm you. Basically a self-defense sort of thing. If you needed something done with a detainee, you were to ask the MP's to do it.

Q: What sort of things would you want done with a detainee that you would have to ask the MP's to do it?

A: Transport him back down to the cells. Give the detainee a shower if he smelled bad. Bring a detainee up from a cell. That was it as far as I remember.

Q: Does the instruction at the MI interrogation school allow for physical contact with individuals being interrogated?

A: I don't know, I did not go to the interrogator school.

Q: Understanding you did not attend the interrogation school, did the SOP you reviewed address any limits for physical contact between MI personnel and individuals they were interrogating?

A: To a certain extend, but I do not remember specifically.

Q: Describe the interrogation techniques used by members of the 519th MI Bn at the BCP?

A: We used an adjusted sleep schedule. We would tell SSG LORING that a specific detainee would need to be placed on an adjusted sleep schedule. He would make the final decision as to if the sleep adjustment would be used and then coordinate with the MP's if it was going to be used. Another technique that we would use was a friendly approach. That was when the interrogator would act as a friend to the detainee and generally act in a nice manner. The technique of good cop / bad cop would be used. This was when either you or your partner or your team and another team would come into the interrogation and begin talking with you, basically using the friendly approach. The other team would then come into the interrogation and be upset, yelling and screaming. Both teams were never present in the interrogation room at the same time except when they were

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Dog entering and leaving the room. During the initial screening, we would sometimes use dogs and loud music as a distraction and disorientation technique. The detainees would be brought into the facility and brought into the screening room. The K-9 unit from the Military Police would be called to the facility and normally he was there before the detainees arrived. The detainees would be brought into the room and the dog would be barking. The MP K-9 handler would bring the dog into the facility on a leash and the dog was normally muzzled. Once inside the building, the muzzle would be removed to allow the dog to bark. The MP K-9 handler always kept the dog on a leash. If there were only a few detainees brought into the facility, he would stay for about 15 minutes. If more detainees were present, he may stay longer. Another technique we used was to have the detainees do physical training. Sometimes we would do the training with them as in jumping jacks, pushups, sit-ups, Iron Mikes (lunges with your hands on your hips), wall sits where the detainee assumed a seated position along a wall without a chair and holding their hands out to their front. We would also have them jog in place. Another technique we used is what I called the "round robin". Some other people may have called it by another name, but I am not sure. This was when one interrogator would use a specific technique, then the interrogator would switch and another interrogator would come in and use a different technique. There was usually one main interrogator who would periodically come into the interrogation room to determine if the technique was effective or if it would be continued. We would sometimes use food and incentives as an interrogation technique. The detainees were very limited in what they were provided to eat. We would bring food items in from outside the facility (candy, baked goods, etc) and try to befriend the detainee with the items in exchange for intelligence information. Another technique was an angry (fear-up) interrogation approach. That was when the interrogators came into the room yelling and screaming, never giving the detainee a chance to talk, belittling the detainee. We would sometimes use stress positions as an interrogation technique. That would be anything from sitting on the floor with no chair, standing with a chair next to you, but not being able to sit down in it. Kneeling on the floor with your hands interlocked behind your head, lying on your back with your hands and feet in the air. Some of us tried these stress positions to see how long you could stand to be in those positions. Once you knew

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how long you could stay in one of the positions, you never told the detainee to stay in the stress position for a period of time longer than you could stay in it. The king interrogation technique was the opposite of the angry approach. Instead of belittling the detainee, you spoke very highly of them and made them feel as if they were the king of the world. The We Know All interrogation technique was to confront the detainee with the fact that we (the US Forces) know everything about the detainee to include his name, family information, birthday, etc., so there was no reason for the detainee not to be truthful with us. The love of family technique was on the same lines as the friendly approach. You are asking the detainees about their family, children, toys the children plays with. This usually causes an emotional side to come out of the detainee which causes a slight bond between the interrogator and the detainee. The detainee realizes that you are the one who may be able to get him back to his family. He is more apt to speak openly with you, because he believes you are the one who will be able to get him back to his family. There are many other techniques, but not that I can recall off the top of my head. It is basically anything you can think of to use.

Q: Why would SSG LORING coordinate with the MP's related to sleep adjustment?

A: He did it, because he was the NCOIC of the facility. If each of the interrogators were to be coordinating with the MP's, then they would begin to question who was authorizing the activity. If the request came from SSG LORING as the NCOIC, then he was the one who was authorizing it.

Q: What is the difference between sleep adjustment and sleep deprivation?

A: None, they are the same thing, just a different name.

Q: Why was it necessary for SSG LORING to coordinate sleep adjustment with the MP's?

A: Because not every detainee was on an adjusted sleep schedule.

Q: Who would decide and how often were dogs used at the ECP during the initial screening process?

A: SSG LORING made that decision. He would decide when, how long and how often.

Q: You described an "angry" interrogation technique, is this similar to the "Fear Up Harsh" interrogation technique?

A: Yes. There is fear up harsh and fear up mild. Depending upon the interrogators personality, which one would be used. I

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A: personally did not do well with a fear up harsh approach, as I do not have the voice and angry mentality to be effective.

Q: While employing the interrogation techniques, especially those involving physical activity or requiring physical stamina by the detainee, what would you do when the detainee could no longer perform the requested task?

A: It depended if the detainee attempted to do it or not. If the detainee attempted to do the task and he was physically tired and could not continue, then we would allow him to rest or sit down. If the detainee just quit and did not try, then we would give them another exercise.

Q: Are you familiar with AR 381-10, US Army Intelligence Activities?

A: I do not know the ins and outs of it, I know the name of it, that is about it.

Q: Are you familiar with Field Manual (FM) 34-52, which describe MI interviews and interrogations?

A: Not aside of knowing it is an Army regulation of some kind.

Q: Based upon the instruction within FM 34-52, are MI interrogators permitted to have physical contact with persons whom they are interrogating?

A: I don't know.

Q: Why did MI deviate from FM's, schoolhouse techniques and approved tactics and switch over to the practices used at Bagram in the BCP?

A: I don't know what was taught at the schoolhouse. I do know that the techniques that we were told to use and not use at the BCP came from SSG LORING and CPT WOOD. The MI 1SG and Commander backed CPT WOOD on what was approved to be used by MI in interrogations at the facility, because she was solely responsible for the MI activity within the BCP.

Q: Where did new or alternate techniques come from?

A: Basically from the interrogators. It was a combined effort from everyone, when someone would think of trying a new technique, like offering food, they would write it into their interrogation plan. The interrogation plan would be reviewed and approved by SSG LORING.

Q: What was non-doctrinal about the techniques used at Bagram?

A: I don't know.

Q: Did anyone say the techniques used at the BCP by MI were non-doctrinal?

A: Not that I ever heard.

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Q: Did Other Governmental Agencies (OGA) or the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) ever influence your tactics and techniques?

A: Not that I am aware of. They never came to the interrogators if they did.

Q: Did you have any knowledge of the term "questionable activity"?

A: No.

Q: Did you maintain records of interrogations? If so, where?

A: Yes. Several places. There is an interrogation plan coversheet, that would be filed in the detainee folder. There were individual notes by the interrogators or their partners would also be placed inside the respective detainee folder. There was an interrogation report following the interrogation. Those reports were saved on the computer and also filed in the individual detainee's folder. There was also a computer database that stored information, which included the date, time of interrogation and end time of interrogation. A brief summary of information obtained, the detainee number, the interpreter and the identification number of the interrogator and their partner. There was a report generated every morning that was presented at the daily brief, which was compiled from the database. The detainee folders were filed and maintained within the MI office at the BCP.

Q: When your unit re-deployed, did you bring any records with you related to detainees interrogations?

A: No. All of the records stayed at the BCP.

Q: Explain the screening and interrogation process used by MI related to detainees brought to the BCP?

A: It is a long process. The detainee is brought into a holding area. The screening effort is a combination between the MP's, MI and CID. Usually one of the MI Interpreters would be present, because no one else had any available. The detainee would normally be secured with zip cuffs and hooded. They are brought into a separate room specifically for screening one at a time. The hood is removed and the zip cuffs are cut off. Medical personnel would examine them and medically clear them. They would note any injuries or malformation. The MP's would then tell the detainee the rules of the facility. Usually CID and the MI personnel would take a photograph of the detainee, like a police mug shot with the detainee holding a number in front of them. CID would fingerprint them; while MI would ask them their name, age, tribe and language they spoke. The

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JN detainee would be given a detainee uniform, placed in a hood, cuffs and leg shackles. They would be returned to the original holding area with the rest of the detainees. The process would continue until all of the detainees were screened. Once all the detainees are screened, they are brought into a separate room one by one, and the MI personnel with the use of the interpreter would collect the basic biographical information of the detainee. Once this process was complete, the MP's would come and move the detainee to a holding cell.

Q: Who would decide whether a detainee was going to be placed in a holding cell or an isolation cell?

A: SSG LORING if he was a new detainee. If he was an old detainee and he was in general population, we would suggest to SSG LORING the MP's move him to isolation if we felt he was conversing with the other detainees too much and there was room in the isolation cells.

Q: Were soldiers concerned with specific interrogation tactics?

A: Not that I know of.

Q: Which tactics caused the most concern? Why?

A: The only one that might cause a concern was if an interrogator only used the fear up harsh approach continuously and that was the only technique they used.

Q: Was there a problem with an MI interrogator using the fear up harsh approach on a continuous basis?

A: Yes, Josh CLAUS. SSG LORING spoke to him and he began to try using different techniques.

Q: Why was CLAUS only using the fear up harsh approach during interrogations?

A: His personality. He is very self centered and very anti anyone else. You can't help him or talk to him, but he also does not brag about himself. He has a hateful attitude.

Q: Were any actions taken by the soldiers or the Chain of Command related to the concerns over interrogation tactics?

A: The MI interrogator, partner, or an observer, saw or heard something that concerned them, then it would be addressed to the individual, usually SSG LORING. The issue was always addressed with the individual to clarify why it was happening and to either justify what was happening or to ensure it did not happen again.

Q: Who made the decision as to which interrogation approach to use?

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A: The interrogator suggested the approach, backed up by the reasons why. The information was provided to SSG LORING to approve the approach or to suggest changes to the approach.

Q: Define the "fear up" interrogation technique?

A: Yelling, screaming, belittling, throwing chairs and tables against the wall, throwing your notebook on the floor. Yelling in the detainee's face. Basically trying to scare the detainee.

Q: When was the "fear up" interrogation approach used?

A: Whenever the interrogator felt the approach was necessary. That was based upon the interrogator and the detainee.

Q: Was the fear up interrogation technique used with either Mr. HABIBULLAH (BT412) or Mr. DILAWAR (BT421)?

A: Maybe a fear up mild, but I was not the interrogator. I don't recall exactly what was briefed. Based on what the other interrogators were saying, I would say a fear up mild approach was used.

Q: What were you told and by whom in regard to the interrogations of BT 412, Mr. HABIBULLAH and BT 421, Mr. DILAWAR?

A: I never distinguished between the two detainees. Most of us were surprised that they were dead and we did not know why. Two individuals were nervous because they had interrogated one of the detainees before he died. Glendale WALLS and Selena SALCEDO (RYAN) and they said that one of the detainees was dead and he was one of them that they had just interrogated. My assumption is that they used either the fear up harsh or the fear up mild approach because they are the more strenuous interrogation techniques. When you are using the other techniques, even the PT or the stress positions, you are still timing them and monitoring them for a specific portion of time. When you are using the fear up harsh or mild approach, you are combining the techniques to include PT and stress positions and the detainee would only have a very short recovery time.

Q: Who authorized the fear up interrogation technique to be used during the interrogation of Mr. HABIBULLAH or Mr. DILAWAR?

A: I don't know since I was not the interrogator. Based on policy, I would assume SSG LORING, since he approved all the rest of them.

Q: Did interrogations, and treatments of detainees generally, become harsher at any particular time?

A: Yes, if the detainee had been in custody for two weeks and not told you anything or changed the information he was providing on a regular basis.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg,
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Q: What does it mean that the GITMO techniques never officially arrived in Bagram? When and how did they get there?

A: I have never heard of any GITMO techniques at the BCP.

Q: What techniques were introduced to the BCP that originated in GITMO?

A: I don't know.

Q: What guidance was given and by whom related to any techniques from GITMO?

A: There was no guidance that I can remember.

Q: Was adjusted sleep schedule used as a technique within the screening and interrogation process at the BCP?

A: Not in the screening process. During the interrogation process, it would be used only on detainees who would not talk or changed their information on a regular basis.

Q: Were there any discussions regarding the legitimacy or ramifications of adjusted sleep schedules?

A: Yes. The ramifications were discussed more than the legitimacies. The result was why detainees were placed on adjusted sleep schedules, which ensured they slept so many hour per day, if they did not, it would make them mentally incompetent. The legitimacy was that if someone was so tired and wanted to get to sleep, they will start to talk to you, just to be able to get to go to sleep.

Q: Where did you learn about the use of adjusted sleep schedule?

A: SSG LORING and CPT WOOD both. They were the ones who discussed the ramifications and legitimacy of the technique.

Q: Was adjusted sleep schedule a technique taught at the MI basic or AIT school?

A: I don't know. This was not discussed during the AIT training for the MOS 97B, counter intelligence agent.

Q: How would the need for utilization of adjusted sleep schedule be determined? Who determined the need?

A: The interrogator discussed how the interrogation was going with SSG LORING. A determination was made based on the two of them (the interrogator and SSG LORING).

Q: Did you ever direct adjusted sleep schedule to be imposed upon any detainee at the BCP?

A: I probably did, I cannot recall anyone specifically, but I probably did.

Q: How would adjusted sleep schedule be enforced within the BCP?

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg,
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A: The MP's were responsible. They kept them awake, but I don't know exactly how. They told them to stand up, that they could not go to sleep.

Q: How often was adjusted sleep schedule used within the BCP?
By whom?

A: It was a common practice. I would say that all of us used the technique. I would not say that it was regular, but I would also say that it was not uncommon for the technique to be used.

Q: Who monitored detainees who were assigned to adjusted sleep schedule regimens?

A: The MP's.

Q: Who determined the length of time adjusted sleep schedule would be imposed upon detainees at the BCP?

A: SSG LORING was the one who set the time and duration for the sleep adjustment to take place.

Q: What was the role of MI leadership in the imposition and monitorship of adjusted sleep schedule for detainees at the BCP?

A: SSG LORING was responsible for coordinating with the MP's for determining which detainees were to be placed on or taken off of the adjusted sleep schedule regime.

Q: Did adjusted sleep schedule ever get out of control?

Describe the circumstances?

A: Not to my knowledge.

Q: Where did the idea of restraining detainees in a standing position to accommodate adjusted sleep schedule come from?

A: I do not know.

Q: Who at the BCP and in MI was aware that standing restraint was being used to enforce adjusted sleep schedule?

A: All of us were.

Q: By "all of us", whom do you mean?

A: All the MI personnel knew it was being used. That included all the interrogators, OPS personnel to include SSG LORING and CPT WOOD. Since the MP's were responsible for enforcing the adjusted sleep schedule, I would make the assumption that they all knew that was how to enforce it.

Q: Did you ever observe any detainee in standing restraint within the BCP?

A: Yes, because I worked there, it was a daily occurrence. Not necessarily for adjusted sleep schedule, the detainee would also be placed in standing restraint when they were in trouble from the MP's. All of the MI personnel to include the leadership observed detainees in standing restraint.

Q: Why was the detainee in standing restraint?

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A: Either on the adjusted sleep schedule or for some type of punishment from the MP's, such as talking, throwing something, or refusing an order of the MP's.

Q: Describe how detainees were restrained while in "standing restraint"?

A: Usually either short cuffs or long cuffs. They would be standing in the small portion of the cell, which lead to the main cell area. If they refused to stand, they would be fastened with their wrists at forehead level to the door of the cell. If the detainee was located in the isolation cell, the MP's had a chain or a drop point from the center of the room which would put the detainees arms at the same height as if they were attached to the door.

Q: Who directed the use of standing restraint?

A: I do not know.

Q: Prior to the deaths in Dec 2002, were you aware of any limitations placed on the use of standing restraint for adjusted sleep schedule? If so, by whom and what were they?

A: No. To my knowledge, there were no changes made, even after the deaths.

Q: To your knowledge, what was the maximum length of time a detainee could be restrained in a standing position? How often and for how long would a detainee have to be "let down" from this position to rest?

A: I don't even know. I don't know how long they were allowed to rest.

Q: How was this maximum time determined? Who was consulted to determine it?

A: I don't know.

Q: Did you observe detainees restrained to fixed objects in any other way (for punishment or adjusted sleep schedule)?

A: No, not that I recall.

Q: Did the manner in which the detainee was restrained disturb you in any way personally or professionally? If not, why not? If so, in what way did it disturb you? What did you do about it?

A: No, I only saw them restrained to the front door and to the ceiling of the isolation cell.

Q: Did CPT WOOD or any other senior member of the unit ever discuss the application of specific techniques or the use of "safety positions" with the members of the MI unit at the BCP?

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A: Safety positions are sometimes referred to as stress positions. They were discussed, but I cannot recall specifically what was said or when.

Q: Define the term "safety position"?

A: A detainee put in a position where the detainee cannot cause harm to himself or anyone else within the room. It is usually not in a position of comfort for the detainee.

Q: When did you first hear and use the term "safety position"?

A: They were used from the beginning, when we talked about stress positions.

Q: Define the term "stress position"?

A: Safety position, the same thing.

Q: Were "safety positions" or "stress positions" used during interrogations by members of the 519th MI Bn at the Bagram BCP?

A: Yes.

Q: Where did the concept of a "safety or stress position" come from?

A: Those of us that were 97B, counter intelligence agents, were told by other MI personnel who were school trained interrogators about the positions and the different types.

Q: What are the different types of safety or stress positions you were told about?

A: Kneeling with your hands behind your head; the invisible chair or the wall sit; standing with your feet more than shoulder width apart. I am sure there are others, but I cannot recall right now.

Q: Did you use "safety positions" or "stress positions" during your interrogations?

A: Yes.

Q: Who authorized you to use "safety or stress positions" during your interrogations?

A: SSG LORING.

Q: What was the purpose for the use of "safety or stress positions" during the interrogation process?

A: Safety of yourself. To place the detainee in a position of discomfort to make them want to be out of the position of discomfort to begin talking with the interrogator.

Q: Who are the individuals in the interrogation room during an average interrogation?

A: Two interrogators and an interpreter in addition to the detainee.

Q: During the interrogation, how is the detainee restrained?

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A: Usually the detainee could be placed in a combination of short shackles and long shackles on the arms and leg shackles. The detainee would be taken out of shackles as an incentive.

Q: Why would an MI interrogator need to use a safety or stress position for the purpose of the safety of the interrogator, when there were superior numbers of US forces within the room and the detainee's would be escorted to the interrogation room secured by MP's?

A: When the MP's would bring the detainee to the interrogation room, they would often need to take the cuffs to escort the next detainee. On one occasion a detainee grabbed my wrist during an interrogation and would not let me go. The other interrogator had left the room and the interpreter grabbed the detainee's arm and we both pried the detainees hand until he let go of me. The MP's then were called back and escorted the detainee back to his cell. You never feel completely safe.

Q: Were there standards or guidance issued as to when stress or safety positions were to be used?

A: Just that they were authorized. SGT LORING and CPT WOOD told us that.

Q: How often were safety positions or stress positions used during interrogations?

A: Often, I would say daily. I would say that maybe not by every interrogator on a daily basis, but at least one of us used them each day.

Q: Was the use of safety positions or stress positions briefed during the morning interrogation preparation meetings?

A: Occasionally. On a special case basis, such as a high level detainee. The briefing would include that stress positions were used and were either successful or unsuccessful. They would not normally be briefed on every detainee during the morning meeting. After each interrogation, you would have to provide a back brief to SSG LORING and during those briefings you would discuss what had happened during the interrogation, to include the use of stress or safety positions.

Q: How would you enforce "safety or stress positions" with detainees who were unable to maintain the specified positions?

A: You would give them another position to maintain.

Q: Did you ever physically assist a detainee in maintaining a safety or stress position (raising hands, adjusting legs, etc)?

A: Yes. Often a detainee would just quit or he would forget. The interpreter would tell him what to do and the detainee would not do anything. I would walk over and reposition the detainee

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by raising his arms on top or over their heads. I would sit in front of the detainee on a chair and place my feet at the arches of their foot, so the detainee would not be able to bring their feet together. When the detainees were on their knees, they would often be in handcuffs and would want to sit back on their heals. I would grab the handcuffs and raise up on them until they were no longer sitting back on their heals. Either my partner or myself would stand with our foot between the detainees legs while they were kneeling, because then the detainee would not want to sit back on our foot. They would stay on their knees.

Q: Were you aware of other members of the 519th MI Bn who utilized "safety or stress positions" during interrogations?

A: Yes, all the interrogators. Everyone I had identified previously in the statement as being assigned to the interrogation teams. The OPS personnel (CPT WOOD) did not conduct interrogations and neither did the support administrative personnel. SSG LORING and SGT HENDRIX did conduct some interrogations and I was partnered with them occasionally and observed them use the technique.

Q: Who in the chain of command knew or approved of the use of "safety or stress positions" during interrogations?

A: All of the chain of command to include, SGT HENDRIX, SSG LORING, CPT WOOD, 1SG BLASHFORD and 1SG NEIL and the Commander, CPT BROWN and CPT HOPPER. I know that CJTF-180 knew, but I do not know who knew. The reason that I know is that some of the CJTF-180 staff attended our morning meeting where the use of safety and stress positions was discussed.

Q: What was MI's understanding on how stress or safety positions were to be achieved and monitored?

A: The technique would be used whenever the interrogator felt it was necessary. The interrogator, speaking through the interpreter would give verbal instructions to the detainee to direct them into the desired safety or stress position. If the detainee would not get into the position, then the detainee would normally be told another position. I would normally give the detainee three chances and after the detainee did not respond to the third direction, I would physically assist them into the desired stress or safety position.

Q: Was the use of safety or stress positions taught during the MI basic or Advanced Individual Training (AIT)?

A: I do not know.

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Q: Was the use of safety or stress positions taught during the MI 97B counter intelligence agent AIT?

A: No.

Q: Did the use of safety or stress positions ever get out of control? Describe the circumstances?

A: Not to my knowledge.

Q: Are you aware of CPT WOOD or anyone else at the BCP compiling a listing of the interrogation techniques, which appeared to be most effective?

A: Not that I know of. I don't recall anyone making a list. Maybe a mental note, I think we all did that as to what techniques worked best for ourselves.

Q: While at the BCP, were you ever briefed or trained on any interrogation techniques, which appeared to be more effective than others?

A: No, we trained on them all. The effectiveness of the techniques are based upon the interrogators personality, which ones are effective and which ones are not.

Q: Did you ever have physical contact with any detainee during an interrogation at the BCP?

A: Yes. Not outside of what we have already documented.

Q: Did you pull on a detainee's beard during an interrogation?

A: No. They are nasty.

Q: Other than what we have documented in the statement, what other physical contact did you have with any detainee during an interrogation?

A: Aside from when they were blindfolded, holding onto their shirt to keep them from falling over the chair and assisting them in sitting down. That also includes leading the detainee out of the interrogation room to the MP's.

Q: Do you know of any other interrogators who had physical contact with detainees during interrogations at the BCP?

A: Yes. Damien COSRSETTI was my partner during several interrogations. Several times I have seen him grab detainee's beards and pull on them to turn their heads. I would sometimes leave the interrogation room to get something, back brief someone or to look something up. On one occasion when I came back to the room the detainee was lying on his back on the floor of the interrogation room. Damien was lying across the detainee's chest. When CORSETTI got up off the detainee, he placed his foot between the detainee's legs in the crotch area. I don't recall the specific detainee or the exact time this occurred. There was an underlying understanding between interrogators that

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you do not undermine the authority of the interrogator in front of the detainee. When I would come back in the room, I began asking the detainee questions, so that whatever CORSETTI was doing with the detainee would stop. Later I confronted CORSETTI and he told me that he was just making sure the detainee understood the rules. I never informed the chain of command as to what I had observed.

During one of the interrogations, Myself and CORSETTI were acting as the good cops. Joshua CLAUS was acting as the bad cop. CORSETTI and I came in as the friendly team, basically saying if the detainee would answer our questions, there would be no trouble. The detainee refused to answer our questions. We left the room and CLAUS would enter the interrogation room. We would wait different periods of time and then return to the interrogation room. On one occasion, we re-entered the room and I observed CLAUS holding onto the shirt of the detainee and dragged the detainee from the center of the room to the wall and pinned him against the wall. He held him against the wall until I began asking the detainee a question. I told the detainee to answer my one question and he would be let go. The detainee answered the question; CLAUS let go of him and left the room.

The other incident involved SGT SALCEDO (RYAN) who was talking with other members of the unit, I cannot recall who was present. SGT SALCEDO (RYAN) said she had kicked a detainee in the butt, because the detainee would not stop sitting on his heels during an interrogation. She said she kicked him in the butt and the detainee still would not get off his heels. I walked away from the conversation at that point and I do not know what else was discussed.

Q: When you returned to the interrogation room and observed CORSETTI on top of the detainee, did you ever inquire from the detainee or the interpreter what had happened and how the detainee came to be on his back on the floor with CORSETTI on top of him?

A: Did not ask, did not want to know, just did not want that to happen again.

Q: Did any detainee request medical assistance during an interrogation at the BCP?

A: Yes, I don't recall which detainee it was. It was at the end of the interrogation and I asked the detainee if there was anything he wanted to tell me. The detainee told me that he had a headache. I explained to him that the doctor was not at the facility and as soon as the doctor came back to the facility, I

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J would tell him about the detainee's claims of a headache and see what could be done. The detainee was satisfied with that response. There may have been others and I know that if the doctor was not present, he was always notified of any medical complaints detainees made to me. I don't have any idea as to what occurred with the other interrogators.

Q: What was the procedure if you determined a detainee required medical assistance or a detainee requested medical assistance during an interrogation?

A: I would ask the detainee what was wrong. That way I could tell the doctor what the detainee was complaining of. I would usually go to the balcony and call down to the MP's to see if the medic was in the facility. If the medic was there, I would have sent the detainee down to the medic with my interpreter if the medic could not come to the interrogation room. If the doctor was not there, which he usually was not when I was working, I would explain to the detainee that the doctor did not stay at the facility constantly. When the doctor came to the facility, I would tell them about the medical complaint of the detainee. As far as policy, no one was to be denied medical attention. When they were to get the medical attention was not determined, just that no one was to be denied medical attention.

Q: Are you aware of any internal guidance issued by CPT WOOD or anyone within the J2, JIIC, or Intelligence Fusion Cell relative to the treatment or interrogation procedures for Afghan detainees? Where would that guidance be located now?

A: CPT WOOD gave us guidance because she was responsible for running the facility. Everything that was written, signed or set as a policy was left for the unit replacing us.

Q: Are you aware of the approved Techniques Tactics and Procedures (TTPs) for MI as listed in FM 34-52?

A: No.

Q: Did you perceive a conflict between obtaining information from detainees and humane treatment? What was the conflict and how should it have been resolved in your opinion?

A: No. You can treat someone as a human being as you would want to be treated and still receive information. That is why I chose other interrogation approaches, which worked best for me.

Q: What was the personal and professional reputation of SPC CORSETTI?

A: Both personally and professionally he is obnoxious. Personally, he is very sexually immature. He will make many sexual comments where most people, at least myself, are very

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uncomfortable. Personally he can be very irresponsible and gets into trouble causing mischief. He can be very trustworthy. Professionally he knows what it takes to be a soldier, but he can be very immature and has a mentality of everyone is out to get him if he is punished for anything. A lot of the time you are supposed to separate your personal life and your professional life. CORSETTI is immature and cannot separate the two. Many times you will hear him making sexual jokes which should be reserved for his personal life in the workplace.

Q: Do you know if CORSETTI was referred to as the "King of Torture"?

A: Yes. The two incidents that I saw would lead me to think that he was doing things to the detainees that he was not supposed to be doing. SSG LORING knew about it and even referred to CORSETTI as the "King of Torture". CORSETTI on several occasions acknowledged that he was known as the "King of Torture". The exact reason he was called that, I do not know, I can only assume based on what I observed.

Q: Did anyone dislike working with CORSETTI?

A: No. He knew the limitations of each individual he was working with, so he was careful not to offend the individuals he was working with.

Q: Did CORSETTI maintain any pornography or alcohol while you were deployed with him to Bagram, Afghanistan?

A: I cannot speak about the pornography, but I know that he had alcohol. I know that SGT Alex LEAHY caught him with alcohol, because it was discussed amongst our team. The details of the incident, I was not told, but we were told that if you had alcohol, you needed to get rid of it.

Q: Did CORSETTI show you or anyone else pornographic images?

A: Not me, I don't know if he showed anyone else.

Q: Did CORSETTI ever mention or show you any websites he visited?

A: No.

Q: Were you present, did you witness or do you otherwise have knowledge of SPC Damien CORSETTI threatening to rape a male detainee, exposing his penis to the man, or CORSETTI placing his penis along the man's face, during an interrogation?

A: I never witnessed and never saw. On one occasion CORSETTI was having a conversation with several individuals from the unit. CORSETTI joked about taking his penis out of his pants and showing it to a detainee. I did not know if it was a joke or if it had actually happened. I did not want to know, so I

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I did not ask. CORSETTI knew that I was offended because I walked away and he never brought up the subject again. I do not recall who was standing with him when he made the comments.

Q: Did you hold a detainee in place while CORSETTI simulated sexual acts with him, while both men were fully clothed, during an interrogation?

A: No.

Q: Were you present and did you witness any other physical assaults on detainees by MPs or MI Interrogators?

A: No, only the incidents which we have already documented previously within this statement.

Q: Did you hear anyone brag about things they had done to detainees, even things you were not present to see? Who? What did they brag had happened?

A: I have previously discussed two incidents involving members of Company A, 519th MI, who made statements regarding possible assaults on detainees. SGT SALCEDO (RYAN) may have assaulted a detainee by kicking him on the buttocks. Further, CORSETTI made jokes, which I have previously discussed in this statement about taking his penis out of his pants and showing it to a detainee. Additionally, a short time after the second death of a detainee, SSG LORING made an announcement to all the MI personnel that if they had any information about the treatment of the two detainees, to speak with him sometime during that day. Later that afternoon, I approached SSG LORING that one of the MP's (SPC Jason CAIN) spoke to me and said that other MP's were beating one of the detainees who had died. CAIN told me that the MP's were striking the detainee with their knees into the thighs of the detainees. He did not tell me what MP's were striking the detainee because I told him I did not want to know. SSG LORING told me he would tell the appropriate people. Later when CID started the investigation, SSG LORING told them that I had come forward and provided this information. CID spoke with me and I provided them with the same information that I had provided to SSG LORING. CID documented a biography sheet during our conversation and they thanked me for the information. I do not know what happened after that, they never spoke with me again.

Q: Why did you not want to know what MP's had struck the detainee who had died?

A: I did not want to be responsible.

Q: Did you ever see or hear any other incidents of MP's striking detainees?

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A: NO.

Q: Did CID take a statement from you regarding the information you had provided to them during their investigation?

A: I don't remember if they took a statement from me or not. They spoke to me, but I don't know if they wrote anything down or not. I don't remember signing any documents, they only had me complete a biography sheet.

Q: Did you and other MI soldiers threaten detainees with the "monster" if they did not cooperate?

A: I know who the "monster" is, but I never threatened my detainees with him. No other interrogators made this threat while I was their partner. I don't know about any of them doing that when I was not present.

Q: Who was the "monster"?

A: PFC Damien CORSETTI.

Q: Who developed the name of "monstar" and decided to employ CORSETTI in this role as intimidator? Why?

A: Monster came from himself. He has a tattoo of the word "Monster" on his stomach. SSG LORING decided to employ CORSETTI in the role of the intimidator, because he was much larger than the rest of us and also due in part to his personality.

Agents Note: At 1915, 31 Jul 04, a decision was made to stop the interview and complete the remainder of the interview on 1 Aug 04. This decision was made due to the length of time of the interview and the anticipated time required to complete the interview. At 1300, 1 Aug 04, the interview was continued. SGT HIGGINBOTHAM was advised and stated she understood that the order to testify and grant of immunity ordered by LTG VINES was still in effect.

Q: With whom did you interrogate during your tour in Afghanistan?

A: During the initial deployment, there were no specific interrogation teams, so I worked with all of the interrogation personnel. I don't recall ever working with SGT SALCEDO(RYAN) because it was a safety issue, having two females interrogate a male detainee. I also never worked with WOOD during an interrogation. These are the individuals with whom I either worked, or later was assigned as a partner in an interrogation team: Alex LEAHY, Damien CORSETTI, Eric MANKIN, Jeremy SHOEMAKE, Joshua CLAUS, Eric LaHAMMER, Marshall SKAGGS, Glendale, WALLS, Rick HENDRIX and Steven LORING.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: During your interrogations, did you observe any physical contact between the individuals you identified in the previous question and detainees during interrogations? If so, what did you see?

A: Alex LEAHY - I observed him grab the arms of detainees during interrogations to assist them back into a safety position or while he had the detainee doing PT. Damien CORSETTI - I saw him lying on top of a detainee and also with his foot in an inappropriate location (between the detainees legs near his groin). I observed him lifting arms and pushing the detainee's buttocks off their heals by pushing on the backs of the detainee's. Eric MANKIN would lift the arms of the detainees using the handcuffs and would also push on their backs to get the detainee to sit up. Jeremy SHOEMAKE would lift with the shackles on the arms of the detainees. Joshua CLAUS would lift the arms of the detainees. Instead of using the shackles to lift detainees arms, CLAUS would stand behind the detainee and place his foot between their legs. His knee would be very close to the back of the detainee, which would cause the detainee to sit up. He would then grab them by the elbows and lift them from a seated position. He also dragged the detainee by grabbing the front of the detainee's shirt and forcibly moved him from the middle of the room to the wall. When he reached the wall, CLAUS pinned the detainee to the wall using his hands on the front of the shirt of the detainee. Eric LaHAMMER, Marshall SKAGGS, Glendale, WALLS, Rick HENDRIX and Steven LORING would all grab detainees by the shackles and pull up on their arms to raise the detainees to a seated position. This was the same activity I did also. I would lift up on the shackle chains to get the detainee to stop resting his buttocks on their heals. I saw all of the individuals leading detainees from the doorway to the chairs of the interrogation rooms because the detainees were blindfolded or had hoods placed over their heads. They would also lead them back to the door after the end of the interview so the MP's could take control of the detainee and return them to their cells. The only other physical contact I was present for was when the detainee I was interrogating was scared and angry. He grabbed my wrist and would not let go. The other interrogator had stepped out of the room and the interpreter grabbed the detainee by the arm and was trying to pull his fingers off me. We were able to get the detainee to let go of my arm and I left the room. The MP's came into the room and took the detainee downstairs.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: Did MI and the MP's play good cop/bad cop with one another to illicit information from detainees?

A: No. The only interaction with the MP's was when they would inform us of detainees who were talking and who they were trying to talk with. I was never aware of the MP's being used to try to gain information from any detainees.

Q: Did MI ever discuss techniques with person's outside the unit?

A: Only with the Other Governmental Organizations who were present at our morning meetings and worked in the same area. We learned tactics from the Other Governmental Organizations and the Australians. The Australians were working with us as part of the task force and they taught us some of their techniques to compare to American techniques.

Q: Was there significant interaction between MI and OGA/DIA?

A: Yes. Some of those organizations worked within our office and in order for them to use our facility, the policy was that one of us had to be present during their interrogations as a spectator. We had daily interaction with some groups and occasional interaction with other groups.

Q: Were these interactions formal or informal?

A: On their reports, we were not documented. We would prepare interrogation reports, which comes after every interrogation. The report would not identify the individuals by name, but would identify their organization or reference "other" as the organization. I would assume they had a formal agreement with the chain of command to be present and use the facility.

Q: Did OGA/DIA share information with MI?

A: Not to my knowledge.

Q: Did MI ever communicate to the MP's that certain detained individuals needed to be "softened up"?

A: Not to my knowledge.

Q: What do you believe is meant by the term "softened up"?

A: I would say making the detainee do extra details, treating him as if he was a trouble child. Making him carry all the water, make all the meals, take out the trash.

Q: Which MP's were present most often during interrogations?

A: There were never MP's present during interrogations. The deaths occurred and it was very close to Christmas. We slowed down the interrogation schedule. After the holiday, we began the train up for the incoming unit. During this time, I do not specifically recall MP's being present during any of the interviews I was involved in. The MP's were always available if

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: you wanted them to assist you, all you had to do was ask them, but they still needed to guard their positions, so they could not sit in on interrogations.

Q: Did MI and MP's get together off duty or any other time and discuss detainees, tactics, ect?

A: I never did. I hung out with the MP's off duty, but I never talked about the detainees. I found other topics to talk about on my off time. The MP's never talked to me about what they did with detainees.

Q: Did SJA ever get involved with interrogation review, procedures, or discuss anything with soldiers?

A: I remember the SJA walking through the facility, but I cannot remember if they ever spoke to us or not. I don't recall if there were any changes to policies or procedures based upon SJA review. If you had asked me this two years ago, I could have probably told you.

Q: Did MI and the MP's work well together, or were they antagonistic?

A: I would say we worked well together. Everywhere you go you always have one or two individuals you do not get along with.

Q: Are you aware of any problems or issues between the MP's and MI?

A: We were just mad because they locked the back door of the facility and we had to walk the long way to eat.

Q: Was there romantic, sentimental or sexual activity among the soldiers?

A: Not to my knowledge.

Q: Did MI have laptop computers with Internet access?

A: Yes, there were three computers, which had Internet access. Two of the computers were in the MI office area and a third computer was located at the top of the stairs in a room on the left. This computer was only there for a short time and it was taken away. We were told it was taken away because people were looking at sites they should not have been looking at.

Q: What type of sites were soldiers looking at that they should not have been?

A: The command did not say what sites were being visited.

Q: Which soldiers had alcohol or pornography? How do you know?

A: We thought that CORSETTI had alcohol because MANKIN and I were watching a movie together. CORSETTI was the only one who was not present. LEAHY pulled our team aside and told us that if we had alcohol, we had better get rid of it. We assumed that LEAHY had seen CORSETTI with alcohol earlier, because LEAHY

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg,
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JM stated he had observed a soldier with alcohol and since MANKIN and I had been together, I assumed it must have been CORSETTI.
Q: What did soldiers do for entertainment in their off duty time?

A: Watch movies and play cards. Listen to music and read books. Sleep and play basketball on the Air Force camp.

Q: Who within the unit had tattoos? Describe them?

A: CORSETTI has the word "Monster" tattooed on his stomach. He also has three oriental letters on either his right or left shoulder area above the bicep. The letters are red. He has a small turtle tattooed on the back of the shoulder, I cannot recall if it was the right or left side. He also has a Christian depiction of the Virgin Mary on the inside of his forearm, I cannot recall right or left. SALCEDO (RYAN) has an oriental letter between her shoulder blades below her neck. She also has a large tribal symbol across her lower back. CLAUS has a tattoo of a scorpion on one of his shoulders and has a sword tattooed on the back of one of his calves. SKAGGS has a sun design tattooed on one of his shoulder biceps, I cannot recall right or left. These were the tattoos the individuals had at the time we were deployed to Afghanistan. Since then, I have been told that CORSETTI had the letters "FTW" tattooed on the inside of his lower lip. I have not seen the tattoo myself. When we returned from the deployment, CORSETTI's attitude had changed and he had adopted the phrase "Fuck The World". I had heard that he had the letters tattooed on his lip, but he has never shown them to me, so I am not sure if they are there or not.

Q: Did you ever consider whether alternate interrogation methods should be used instead of the methods, which were employed by MI at the BCP?

A: No, I just used the methods we were told to use.

Q: Did you feel the MI interrogation techniques used at the BCP were legitimate?

A: I would say yes to a certain extent. If you did not go outside the limitations of the approach or technique that were used then yes, they were legitimate. If you crossed the line and went outside the limitations of an approach, then no, these were not legitimate.

Q: Do you know of interrogators who went outside the limitations of the established interrogation techniques?

A: Yes. CORSETTI and CLAUS when CORSETTI laid on top of the detainee and CLAUS when he manhandled the detainee, moved him across the room and pinned him to the wall. There are no others

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

JM that I witnessed. There were rumors of others but I did not see them.

Q: Were you aware detainees were being abused?

A: I assumed so when I saw CORSETTI lying on top of the detainee. Also when the MP told me that the detainees were being beaten. I never saw any detainee being abused myself.

Q: If you were aware of abuse or suspected abuse, whom did you report this information to?

A: I informed SSG LORING about the information the MP had told me. I took care of CORSETTI myself by telling him not to do that again. I never informed SSG LORING about what occurred with CORSETTI.

Q: Did you observe any MI interrogators physically touch or strike a detainee before or after an interrogation session?

A: Not before or after an interrogation session, I have already documented the incidents where I observed MI personnel assault detainees during interrogation sessions.

Q: Did you observe any MI personnel step on or kick any detainees?

A: I don't recall anyone ever stepping on the calves of any detainees or kicking them. I had only heard SGT SALCEDO (RYAN) talking about kicking a detainee on the buttocks, but I did not see this happen.

Q: Did you talk with anyone about the deaths of the two detainees?

A: I probably did, but don't recall anything specific. More than likely I just said that two of them were dead.

Q: Who do you believe was responsible for the deaths of the detainees?

A: No idea.

Q: Did you ever observe the MP's handling any unruly detainees?

A: No.

Q: Do you know about an incident in which a MI interrogator was alleged to give water to a detainee by poking a hole in a water bottle and squeezing the bottle, forcing water into the detainee's mouth and choking him?

A: No I never heard anyone talking about anything like that.

Q: Do you know what background CPT WOOD had prior to the deployment to Bagram, Afghanistan?

A: I know she had been to Bosnia that was all I know.

Q: Did you have any discussions with WOOD regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Not that I recall.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: Since you shared a living space with CPT WOOD during the deployment, did she or yourself engage in conversations related to the tactics, techniques and procedures within the BCP and which of those worked better than others?

A: No. We had conversations about family and friends but we did not discuss work issues. She may have mentioned that she was working alot, but that was obvious because she was not at the tent as often as the rest of us.

Q: Characterize your relationship with CPT WOOD?

A: She was the OIC of the facility I worked in as well as the Company Executive Officer and one of the roommates of the tent I lived in. We had a professional relationship, but she also knew being a female if there was a personal issue we could talk with her about it as well. A lot of us characterize her as being our Mom, someone who would take care of us if we needed her to.

Q: Did WOOD bring any policies, techniques, manuals or procedures from GTMO to the MI operation at the BCP?

A: Not that I ever saw.

Q: Did you have discussions with WOOD regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: Not that I recall. If I was going to use an alternate method or try a new method during an interrogation, I would discuss those with SSG LORING.

Q: Did you talk with WOOD regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: What guidance did WOOD provide regarding adjusted sleep schedule or sleep deprivation?

A: That was what we talked about before. She said that we could use the technique and it was effective for a period of time. We could not use the technique for a long period of time because it could make people mentally crazy.

Q: What guidance did WOOD provide regarding stress or safety positions?

A: That we were allowed to use them, but only for a certain amount of time. I don't recall the time limit we were given.

Q: What guidance did WOOD provide related to physical contact with the detainees?

A: I don't recall that she gave any guidance.

Q: What guidance did WOOD provide related to other abuse against detainees?

A: Abuse was not allowed.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: What direction did WOOD provide related to the utilization of MP's for interrogation purposes?

A: I don't remember if she said anything.

Q: Did WOOD attend any interrogator de-briefings after interviews were conducted?

A: She sat in on the morning meetings, but I cannot recall if she ever sat in when we de-briefed with SSG LORING.

Q: What input did WOOD have on the content of the interrogation?

A: The only time she ever interjected on the content of an interrogation was when someone from the CJTF-180 staff would bring us information related to a specific detainee. She would provide us with the information and tell us to see if the information applied to the interrogation. She read through interrogation reports for clarity.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WOOD about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WOOD about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WOOD about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you ever hear anyone talking about stepping on the necks of the detainees during interrogations?

A: No.

Q: Did the interpreters working with MI ever speak about concerns they had related to interrogation techniques or tactics?

A: They never spoke to the interrogators. They had been instructed to speak directly to SSG LORING if they had any concerns. I don't recall if that ever happened or not, it probably did. We saw interpreters come and work with us for short periods of time and I would guess they did not get along with someone or did not like something that was being done, so they left.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WOOD about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No, not that I recall.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WOOD about the two dead detainees?

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A: Not that I remember.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WOOD about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: If you have characterized CPT WOOD as a mother like figure, why would you not discuss a traumatic event within the BCP such as the death of two detainees with her?

A: Didn't feel the need.

Q: Do you know what background LORING had prior to the deployment to Bagram, Afghanistan?

A: No idea.

Q: Did you have any discussions with LORING regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Yes, because he was the one we discussed our planned interrogation technique with.

Q: Did SSG LORING have the authority to approve or disapprove interrogation techniques used by MI within the BCP?

A: I would assume so, since he was the NCOIC.

Q: Who else within MI at the BCP had the authority to approve or disapprove interrogation techniques?

A: I would say CPT WOOD, since she was over SSG LORING. SGT HENDRIX was able to give approval if SSG LORING was not present.

Q: Did LORING bring any policies, techniques, manuals or procedures from GTMO to the MI operation at the BCP?

A: Not that I recall.

Q: Did you have discussions with LORING regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: Yes, as we have previously discussed, all interrogation techniques, whether they were new or already established had to be approved by SSG LORING.

Q: Did you talk with LORING regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: I don't remember.

Q: What guidance did LORING provide regarding adjusted sleep schedule or sleep deprivation?

A: Same as discussed before. It was effective because the detainee will want to talk because they are tired. It could only be used for a short period of time because it could make the detainee mentally crazy.

Q: What guidance did LORING provide regarding stress or safety positions?

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A: They were authorized for a certain amount of time, but I do not remember how long that time was.

Q: What guidance did LORING provide related to physical contact with the detainees?

A: I can't remember if he gave us any guidance.

Q: What guidance did LORING provide related to other abuse against detainees?

A: Don't do it.

Q: What direction did LORING provide related to the utilization of MP's for interrogation purposes?

A: Just that the MP's would be there if we needed their help as far as escorts to and from the interrogation rooms, latrines, and water.

Q: Did LORING attend any interrogator de-briefings after interviews were conducted?

A: Yes, he was the one who debriefed all of the interrogators after each interrogation session.

Q: What input did LORING have on the content of the interrogation?

A: Whatever he wanted. If he wanted something added, he would tell you and if he wanted something taken out, he would tell you that as well.

Q: What input did LORING have on the implementation and maintenance of the adjusted sleep schedule program for detainees?

A: He was responsible for it. He could turn it on or off whenever he wanted.

Q: Did you have any discussions with LORING regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Yes, I would discuss all my planned interrogation techniques with him.

Q: Did you have discussions with LORING regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: Yes, we would discuss all of the techniques because he was the NCOIC and in charge of that.

Q: Did you talk with LORING regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: I don't recall ever discussing that.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LORING about detainees being abused?

A: Yes; when the MP came and told me that other MP's had been striking the detainee who died.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: Did you have any conversations with LORING about interrogators striking detainees?

A: I don't think I ever said anything to him.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LORING about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LORING about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: Yes we did. He was the one who told us what our job would be at the BCP when we first deployed. We would have ongoing discussions with SSG LORING about the relevance certain detainees had to the MI mission at Bagram and the information we were trying to develop.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LORING about the two dead detainees?

A: Yes, he was the one who told us the detainees were officially dead. I remember him talking to us, I don't recall anything specific other than they were dead.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LORING about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with WALLS regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Only if he was my partner, we would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

Q: Did you have discussions with WALLS regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: Not that I recall, I did not work with him very much.

Q: Did you talk with WALLS regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WALLS about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WALLS about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WALLS about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: Did you have any conversations with WALLS about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WALLS about the two dead detainees?

A: I don't think so.

Q: Did you have any conversations with WALLS about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with CORSETTI regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Yes, if he was my partner. We would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

Q: Did you have discussions with CORSETTI regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: Only if we were going to try something different, that one of us had an idea. I am not 100% positive but I believe he may have been my partner when I used homemade cookies as an incentive technique during an interrogation.

Q: Did you talk with CORSETTI regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No, but when he was lying on the detainee, I told him not to do that again, because it was not appropriate. He said OK.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CORSETTI about detainees being abused?

A: Just the one when I thought he was inappropriate by lying on top of the detainee.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CORSETTI about interrogators striking detainees?

A: Just when he was lying on top of the detainee, I told him not to do that again.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CORSETTI about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CORSETTI about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: I don't believe so.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CORSETTI about the two dead detainees?

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A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CORSETTI about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with SHOEMAKE regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Only if he was my partner, we would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

Q: Did you have discussions with SHOEMAKE regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: If he was my partner, we would discuss the techniques we were going to use. I don't know if we thought of any new techniques to try or not.

Q: Did you talk with SHOEMAKE regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SHOEMAKE about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SHOEMAKE about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SHOEMAKE about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SHOEMAKE about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SHOEMAKE about the two dead detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SHOEMAKE about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with MANKIN regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Only if he was my partner, we would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: Did you have discussions with MANKIN regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: Not that I remember.

Q: Did you talk with MANKIN regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with MANKIN about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with MANKIN about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with MANKIN about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with MANKIN about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with MANKIN about the two dead detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with MANKIN about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with CLAUS regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Only if he was my partner, we would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

Q: Did you have discussions with CLAUS regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: I don't think so, but it is possible we may have come up with a new technique.

Q: Did you talk with CLAUS regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CLAUS about detainees being abused?

A: No.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: Did you have any conversations with CLAUS about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CLAUS about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CLAUS about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: He just always told me that he felt the mission we had at Bagram was "stupid".

Q: Did you have any conversations with CLAUS about the two dead detainees?

A: I don't believe so.

Q: Did you have any conversations with CLAUS about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with SALCEDO (RYAN) regarding interrogation techniques?

A: I may have discussed some, but I don't ever recall her being my partner.

Q: Did you have discussions with SALCEDO (RYAN) regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: No.

Q: Did you talk with SALCEDO (RYAN) regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SALCEDO (RYAN) about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SALCEDO (RYAN) about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SALCEDO (RYAN) about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: Yes, I overheard her say that she had kicked a detainee in the buttocks when the detainee would not get off his heels. I did not have a true conversation about anything, I overheard what she said and then I left the area without speaking to her about the incident.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg,
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Q: Did you have any conversations with SALCEDO (RYAN) about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SALCEDO (RYAN) about the two dead detainees?

A: No, just that I had overheard her being nervous that they were dead.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SALCEDO (RYAN) about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with LaHAMMER regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Only if he was my partner, we would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

Q: Did you have discussions with LaHAMMER regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: It is possible we may have brainstormed together.

Q: Did you talk with LaHAMMER regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LaHAMMER about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LaHAMMER about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LaHAMMER about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LaHAMMER about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LaHAMMER about the two dead detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LaHAMMER about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: Did you have any discussions with HENDRIX regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Yes, if he was my partner and that was what we were going to use. I can only think of one or maybe two times when SSG LORING was not around and since he was the assistant to SSG LORING, we would discuss our interrogation technique with him for approval.

Q: Did you have discussions with HENDRIX regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: It is possible, because he was usually sitting there when we were discussing with SSG LORING. Also, when SSG LORING was not at the BCP, we would go to SGT HENDRIX for approval of the interrogation techniques.

Q: Did you talk with HENDRIX regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with HENDRIX about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with HENDRIX about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with HENDRIX about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with HENDRIX about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with HENDRIX about the two dead detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with HENDRIX about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with LEAHY regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Only if he was my partner, we would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

Q: Did you have discussions with LEAHY regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

A: It is possible, but I cannot remember specifics.

Q: Did you talk with LEAHY regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LEAHY about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LEAHY about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LEAHY about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LEAHY about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LEAHY about the two dead detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with LEAHY about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with SKAGGS regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Only if he was my partner, we would then discuss the techniques that were going to be used for the interrogation and who was going to be the lead interrogator.

Q: Did you have discussions with SKAGGS regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: It is possible, but nothing specific.

Q: Did you talk with SKAGGS regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SKAGGS about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SKAGGS about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SKAGGS about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SKAGGS about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SKAGGS about the two dead detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with SKAGGS about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any discussions with anyone we have not already identified regarding interrogation techniques?

A: Not that I recall.

Q: Did you have discussions with anyone we have not already identified regarding the use of alternate techniques or methods instead of using the established interrogation techniques?

A: No.

Q: Did you talk with anyone we have not already identified regarding if the interrogation techniques used by MI at the BCP were legitimate?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with anyone we have not already identified about detainees being abused?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with anyone we have not already identified about interrogators striking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with anyone we have not already identified about interrogators stepping on the necks or kicking detainees?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with anyone we have not already identified about the general attitude and feelings of the MI mission and the interrogators job?

A: No.

Q: Did you have any conversations with anyone we have not already identified about the two dead detainees?

A: It is possible, but I do not recall anyone specific. Probably just that two detainees were dead.

Q: Did you have any conversations with anyone we have not already identified about who was responsible for the deaths of the detainees and why?

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0137-02-CID369-23534

STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

A: No.

Q: Did you ever interrogate BT 412, Mr. HABIBULLAH?

A: Not that I remember.

Q: Did you ever interrogate BT 421, Mr. DILAWAR?

A: Not that I remember.

Q: Where you present within the BCP when either BT412 (HABIBULLAH) or BT421 (DILAWAR) died?

A: No, I was working on day shift.

Q: How did you find out about the deaths?

A: SSG LORING told us. He pulled the interrogators aside and told us about the deaths. He told us that one of the detainees was dead and the cause of death was undetermined thus far. The same thing was said after the second detainee was dead as well.

Q: From your perspective, was the MI leadership involved in the day-to-day operations?

A: Yes.

Q: Who did you socialize with while you were at Bagram, Afghanistan?

A: On duty, the individuals I worked with to include the MI personnel and the MP's on the shift. Off Duty, some of the MI personnel and some of the MP's. The MI people I socialized with were SGT SALCEDO (RYAN), SPC MANKIN and SGT CLAUS. The MP personnel I socialized with were Jason CAIN. I talked and did things with other people, but these were the people I spent the most time with.

Q: Did you discuss interrogation techniques with the individuals you identified in the previous answer?

A: No, unless it was the MI personnel while we were on duty.

Q: Did you discuss the death of the two detainees with any of the individuals with whom you socialized?

A: No, not that I remember.

Q: How did the deaths of the two detainees make you feel?

A: Upset. Because they were in our care and they were dead and we had not had any detainees die to that time.

Q: Did anyone with MI tell you not to discuss the techniques or procedures used at the BCP outside the unit?

A: Yes, SSG LORING, CPT WOOD, the MI 1SG and Commander all told us not to talk about the techniques, procedures or our jobs outside the unit.

Q: What is your principle responsibility as a 97B counter intelligence agent?

A: Collect intelligence from local national personnel in their own environment.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

Q: How are counter intelligence interviews different from interrogations?

A: You are in the local national's house or place of work and you cannot directly ask them about intelligence. You have to listen to all their concerns as well. You have to work the conversation to develop or gain intelligence that is valuable. During an interrogation, you are talking to a detained individual who is going nowhere if he does not talk and cooperate.

Q: Was the MI SOP you read and signed developed once your unit arrived in Afghanistan?

A: Yes.

Q: Were you provided with a copy of the MI SOP?

A: To keep? No. We signed it and it was filed, exactly where I am not sure. Somewhere in the MI office.

Q: Do you recall what the SOP stated regarding the conduct of interrogations?

A: I do not remember.

Q: Did your chain of command encourage you to report misconduct?

A: It was never stated one way or another that I remember.

Q: How is misconduct normally handled within your MI unit?

A: Brushed under the rug.

Q: Did you observe MP's or other personnel use sticks or clubs around the detainees to include the in processing of detainees?

A: Not that I ever saw.

Q: Did any detainees inform you they had been assaulted or injured by anyone during any of your interrogations?

A: Not that I remember.

Q: Did you ever use physical force to make a detainee perform a task as an interrogation technique?

A: Yes.

Q: Did you have a full understanding of your mission and responsibility while assigned to conduct interrogations at the BCP?

A: To a certain extent. Because there was no SOP when we first arrived. Even though there is an SOP, does not mean it fully explains what you can or cannot do.

Q: Did you ever ask your chain of command for additional training or reference material related to conducting interrogations?

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg, NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

A: Yes. I asked SSG LORING because he was our Platoon Sergeant. But the most common response was "on the job training" and no materials were provided that I recall.

Q: What was the problem with SPC CLAUS using the fear-up harsh interrogation technique? *SET/H*

A: He has a very angry mentality. Interrogators are told to use more than one interrogation technique to be successful. Meaning you cannot use the same technique on every detainee. He was only using the fear-up harsh technique.

Q: Could you deviate interrogation techniques, such as using safety or stress positions, once the original interrogation plan had been approved by SSG LORING or SGT HENDRIX?

A: No.

Q: Was it common for new detainees to be placed on an adjusted sleep schedule for the first 24-72 hours at the BCP?

A: Not to my knowledge.

Q: Did anyone outside the BCP know that standing restraint was being used to enforce adjusted sleep schedule?

A: I do not know.

Q: Did you ever raise the issue of your personal safety with your chain of command related to you conducting interrogations?

A: No.

Q: As an interrogator, did you feel threatened while conducting interrogations of detainees?

A: Occasionally.

Q: Were safety positions used as an interrogation technique to illicit information from detainees?

A: Yes.

Q: Did an interrogator need prior approval to employ a safety or stress position during an interrogation?

A: Yes.

Q: Why did you not notify your chain of command related to CORSETTI or CLAUS assaulting detainees during interrogations?

A: Handled at the individual level first. If it was a continual issue, then it was brought to the command.

Q: Did you ever hear CORSETTI threaten a detainee with any sexual acts during an interrogation?

A: Not that I remember.

Q: Would you note a detainee's medical condition in your interrogation report if they made a medical complaint to you during an interrogation?

A: Yes I did. I don't know if the other interrogators did this or not.

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STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg,
NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

JHM
Q: Did anyone from CJTF-180 observe any interrogations?

A: I know a few of the CJTF-180 observed a few interrogations, but I do not know who the individuals were, why they observed, for how long, or how many interrogations they observed.

Q: Did anyone from the SJA ever observe any interrogations?

A: I don't recall if they did or not.

Q: Who was responsible to oversee the decisions SSG LORING and SGT HENDRIX made related to approval of interrogation techniques, adjusted sleep schedule, policies and procedures?

A: My assumption would be CPT WOOD, since she was over SSG LORING.

Q: Is there anything you wish to add to this statement?

A: I do not think so.

//////////End of Statement//////////

*JHM*INITIALS *JHM*

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0137-02-CID369-23534

STATEMENT OF SGT Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, TAKEN AT Fort Bragg,
NC, DATED 1 August 2004, CONTINUED:

AFFIDAVIT

I, Jennifer N. HIGGINBOTHAM, HAVE READ OR HAVE HAD READ TO ME THIS STATEMENT WHICH BEGINS ON PAGE 1 AND ENDS ON PAGE 49. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT MADE BY ME. THE STATEMENT IS TRUE. I HAVE INITIALED ALL CORRECTIONS AND HAVE INITIALED THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE CONTAINING THE STATEMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS STATEMENT FREELY WITHOUT HOPE OF BENEFIT OR REWARD, WITHOUT THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, AND WITHOUT COERCION, UNLAWFUL INFLUENCE, OR UNLAWFUL INDUCEMENT.

(Signature of Person Making Statement)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a person authorized by law to administer oaths, this 1st day of August 2004 at Fort Bragg, NC
28310

(Signature of Person Administering Oath)

SA Daniel G. Carton, 3609

(Typed Name of Person Administering Oath)

Article 136 (b) 4 UCMJ

(Authority to Administer Oath)

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